



News from the Front



November 2, 2006

LSA Anaconda, Iraq

Camp Buerking, Kuwait

Family & Friends,

Greetings from Logistics Support Area (LSA) Anaconda. The company arrived en mass in the first week of October and immediately went to work. From the very first hours, the soldiers rolled up their sleeves and got to work organizing the company for the next year of operations. The pace was pretty hectic as we balanced getting our administrative areas established, setting up our living spaces, and starting to execute missions. The soldiers performed magnificently. In fact, those first few hectic days were nothing we were not accustomed to at Fort Riley.



We officially assumed the mission for Combat Logistics Patrol (CLP) Security about two weeks after we arrived. The platoons welcomed the opportunity to put to use all the skills and training they've accumulated over the past year. All that hard work and training paid off as the platoons seamlessly transitioned with the unit currently conducting the mission. You should be proud of your soldiers. They have adapted very well and have already established for themselves a reputation of competence and professionalism both in the battalion, and with the civilian contractors we escort on a daily basis.



4th Platoon soldiers take a break from preparing their weapons for mission



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Living conditions in LSA Anaconda are better than we anticipated. All soldiers are housed in 2-man rooms in portable trailers. Each room is fully powered with its own air conditioner. Although the LSAA living areas do not have centralized internet service, some soldiers have elected to purchase local service. In addition to the MWR Internet Cafes throughout the installation, our company area has ample internet connections. The company also has multiple government telephone lines and we have two phones solely dedicated for morale calls.

The soldiers eat most of their meals from the Dining Facility (DFAC) directly across from the company area and motor pool. The DFAC serves four meals every day with a great deal of variety. The menu repeats itself every three weeks but plenty of options exist for any one meal.

LSAA has multiple MWR facilities for the soldiers to enjoy. Indoor and outdoor pools, gyms, movie theater, and recreation center are just a few of the

amenities that are available. The PX is small, and some personal hygiene items are sometimes in short supply, but, for the most part, everything we need is here. Soldiers can even get a taste of home from the Burger King and Pizza Hut located a short shuttle bus ride away. That's right, LSAA is so large there are multiple shuttle bus routes!

Our mission has us escorting CLPs all over Iraq from Ar Ramadi in the west to Baqubah in the East and as far south as Talil and north almost to Mosul. Virtually all of our routes are along major highways and we move almost exclusively at night to avoid contact with the civilian population. On any given day, half of the platoons are either preparing for their next mission or recovering their equipment from the previous evening.

In addition, the Maintenance Platoon has already begun our periodic maintenance so we can maintain as many combat ready vehicles as we can. We put a lot of hard miles on these vehicles and the mechanics are constantly engaged.



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The Cobra Maintenance Platoon

In coming editions, we will start to highlight a single platoon in the company. The leaders in the platoon will provide a detailed picture of what daily life is like for them and their soldiers. The next edition will highlight 6th Platoon so stay tuned for more information.

A special thank you to all the members of the Family Readiness Group who have been intimately involved with the care of some of our families who have been in need of assistance. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Your volunteer efforts have made it possible for soldiers to remain focused on the mission at hand and rest assured that, when their family has an emergency, a

support network exists to look after their needs.

Best wishes and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

CPT Jeffery Jurand
“Cobra 6”



Mail call is always a popular time